

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: R.B. Hutchison et al. Attorney Docket No.: ECHG121699
Application No.: 10/663,443 Art Unit: 3627 / Confirmation No: 1594
Filed: September 16, 2003 Examiner: C.R. Buchanan
Title: METHOD FOR ORDERING GOODS, SERVICES AND CONTENT OVER
AN INTERNETWORK USING A VIRTUAL PAYMENT ACCOUNT

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Seattle, Washington 98101

June 4, 2007

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of Claims 2, 4-6, and 9-12 of the subject application with appreciation. Applicants agree with the reasons for allowance to the extent that the claims are patentable over the references of record.

Applicants respectfully traverse the reasons for allowance to the extent that any comment included therein is intended to or has the effect of limiting the scope of the claims, either explicitly or implicitly, by not reciting, verbatim, the language of the claims. Applicants further expressly traverse the reasons for allowance to the extent that any comment therein has the effect of limiting the scope of a claim by stating or implying that all the reasons for patentability are fully enumerated. Applicants also traverse the reasons for allowance with respect to the characterization of the art cited therein, which speaks for itself.

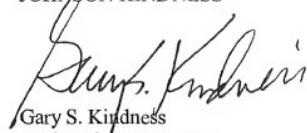
Applicants further note that the reasons for allowance are not the only reasons that the claims are allowable. Applicants also note that structures or methods that perform substantially the same functions, substantially the same way, to achieve substantially the same results fall within the scope of the allowed claims.

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Applicants further point out that the reasons for allowance should not be construed as establishing an estoppel against applicants seeking or obtaining the allowance of additional, broader claims in a continuation application, which applicants reserve the right to file.

Respectfully submitted,

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